



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5426

January Session, 2009

* _____ HB05426HS _____ 031709 _____ *

**AN ACT CONCERNING CHILD CARE SUBSIDIES FOR THE
UNEMPLOYED UNDER THE CARE 4 KIDS PROGRAM.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 17b-749 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2009*):

4 (c) The commissioner shall establish eligibility and program
5 standards including, but not limited to: (1) A priority intake and
6 eligibility system with preference given to serving recipients of
7 temporary family assistance who are employed or engaged in
8 employment activities under the department's "Jobs First" program,
9 working families whose temporary family assistance was discontinued
10 not more than five years prior to the date of application for the child
11 care subsidy program, teen parents, low-income working families,
12 adoptive families of children who were adopted from the Department
13 of Children and Families and who are granted a waiver of income
14 standards under subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section, and
15 working families who are at risk of welfare dependency; (2) health and
16 safety standards for child care providers not required to be licensed;
17 (3) a reimbursement system for child care services which account for
18 differences in the age of the child, number of children in the family, the
19 geographic region and type of care provided by licensed and

20 unlicensed caregivers, the cost and type of services provided by
 21 licensed and unlicensed caregivers, successful completion of fifteen
 22 hours of annual in-service training or credentialing of child care
 23 directors and administrators, and program accreditation; (4)
 24 supplemental payment for special needs of the child and extended
 25 nontraditional hours; (5) an annual rate review process which assures
 26 that reimbursement rates are maintained at levels which permit equal
 27 access to a variety of child care settings; (6) a sliding reimbursement
 28 scale for participating families; (7) an administrative appeals process;
 29 (8) an administrative hearing process to adjudicate cases of alleged
 30 fraud and abuse and to impose sanctions and recover overpayments;
 31 (9) an extended period of program and payment eligibility when a
 32 parent who is receiving a child care subsidy experiences a temporary
 33 interruption in employment or [other] is engaged in another approved
 34 activity, provided the commissioner shall establish a twenty-six-week
 35 extended period pursuant to this subdivision within available
 36 resources received by the state from federal stimulus funds available
 37 for purposes of this section; and (10) a waiting list for the child care
 38 subsidy program that reflects the priority and eligibility system set
 39 forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection, which is reviewed
 40 periodically, with the inclusion of this information in the annual report
 41 required to be issued annually by the Department of Social Services to
 42 the Governor and the General Assembly in accordance with
 43 subdivision (10) of section 17b-733. Such action will include, but not be
 44 limited to, family income, age of child, region of state and length of
 45 time on such waiting list.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2009	17b-749(c)
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Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

Subdivision (9) was rewritten to move the language on the twenty-six-week extended period to the end of the subdivision for clarity.

HS *Joint Favorable Subst.*